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*Draft*

NSC Briefing

*Rakosi Ouster**of presidium member*

1. On 18 July, Hungarian leader Rakosi resigned as party first secretary at meeting of Hungarian CC. CC praised his work at some length and said his great efforts not to be forgotten by mistakes committed by violation of socialist legality and in sphere of cult of personality. Rakosi letter of resignation cited "mistakes" and "illness."

a. Erno Gero, first deputy premier, ~~xxxx~~ and a doctrinal "hard" elected new party first secretary. Janos Kadar (rehabilitated nativist), Gyorgy ~~Maros~~ Marosan (ex-Social Democrat), Karoly Kiss (HWP control commission head), Jozsef Revai (former ideological head) new full politburo members. TU head ( Sandor Gaspar) and *President, Presidium GNA* (Sandor Ronai) alternate members.

b. Gero is a Moscowite communist, a doctrinal hard and the second (to Rakosi) most reliable commie in Hungary. Moscow's selection of Gero is effort to keep Hungarian party policy in line and prevent uncontrolled move to right. Rakosi ouster sop to moderate who also gained by appointment of moderates (all but Revai) to Politburo. ~~Thus Hunga hope to remove chief cause to unity to solve factional problem.~~

c. Possibility selection of a doctrinal hard as first secretary and

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simultaneous selection of 5 moderates (and one hard Revai) to Politburo may create more problems than it solves. Rakosi demise represents "leftist" concession; moderates presumably will press for further concessions. Pressures for greater concessions likely to continue unless strong-arm tactics now to be evoked by Gero-led regime.

d. Strojg forece in opposition to HWP leadership coalescing into active political faction with identifiable leaders (Kadar and ex-premier Nagy). Group favor democratization of communist system and immediate rise in standard of living.

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